THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Yes Sir, 6.1 kms. of the international border between India and Bangladesh in three sectors remains undemarcated.

(b) The sectors are Daikhata-56 (1.5 km in West Bengal), Belonia (1.6 km in Tripura) and Lathitilla-Dumabari (3 km. in Assam).

(c) and (d) Government of India is keen on an early settlement of all boundary related matters with Bangladesh in accordance with the India-Bangladesh Land Boundary Agreement of 1974. Two Joint Boundary Working Groups were set up to resolve all pending issues relating to the implementation of the Land Boundary Agreement in 2001 which met twice in July, 2001 and March, 2002. During the 2nd meeting of the Joint Boundary Working Group in New Delhi, India had offered a composite package to Bangladesh for the demarcation of the pending segments of the international boundary. The response of the Bangladesh Government is awaited. The issue was discussed in the Foreign Office Consultations held in June, 2005. The two sides agreed to continue discussions to expedite completion of the demarcation of the land boundary. It was decided to resume meetings of the Joint Boundary Working Groups (JBWG) to consider boundary-related issues.

Children engaged in hazardous work

1173. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA:
SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court of India in the M.C Mehta *Vs.* State of Tamil Nadu, (1997) issued some specific directives for improving the conditions of children rescued from hazardous employment;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether steps have been taken to implement these directives fully in letter and spirit and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHAR RAO): (a) Yes, Sir. The Judgement of the Supreme Court in the M.C. Mehta case came on 10.12.1996.

(b) The main directions given in the judgement passed in 1996 include the following:

> Undertaking and completing the survey to identify and enumerate working children employed in hazardous industries/occuptations/ processes within a period of six months.

> Payment of compensation amounting to Rs. 20,000/-for every child employed in hazardous industries/occupations/processes by offending employer.

> Constitution of Child Labour Rehabilitation-cum Welafare Fund.

> Investment of the corpus of the Fund in a manner, which will yield the best possible return.

> Giving alternative employment to an able bodies adult members of every family, which had sent its child (children) for employment in hazardous industry/occupations/process. In the event of failure to do so, ensure deposit by the State Government @ Rs. 5000/- per child into the corpus of the Child Labour Rehabilitation-cum-Welfare Fund.

> Provision of access to educational opportunity to all children withdrawn from hazardous work in a suitable educational institution.

> Providing access to educational opportunity for at least two hours a day for children in non-hazardous jobs and permitting them to work from four to six hours a day.

> Opening a separate Cell in the Labour Deptt. of the State Government and entrusting the responsibility of monitoring to the Secretary of that Deptt.

> Making Inspectors appointed under Section 17 of the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 fully accountable to the District Magistrate and the latter to keep a close and constant surveillance on the performance of these Inspectors.

(c) Yes, Sir. The State Governments are complying with the guidelines issued by the Hon'ble Supreme Court relating to child labour and have been submitting their reports in this regard. Based on these reports, the Hon'ble Supreme Court is apprised of the action taken by the State Governments through affidavits filed by this Ministry.

(d) Does not arise.